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MIDWEST SHOPTALK PMA

For Employees of the Production and Marketing Administration in the Midwest.

May 7, 1953

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 8	Minnesota Agr. Mobilization Committee	St. Paul
May 8	Iowa Agr. Mobilization Committee	Des Moines
May 11-15	National Restaurant Association Convention	Chicago
May 12-13	Iowa Beekeepers Short Course	Ames
May 14	Illinois Agr. Mobilization Committee	Decatur
May 14-15	American Feed Manufacturers Assn.	Chicago
May 14-15	Turkey Industry Forum	Chicago
May 15	Michigan Agr. Mobilization Committee	Lansing
May 17	Central States Association of Health, Food, Drug and Feed Officials	Columbus
May 17-18	Indiana Retail Grocers & Meat Dealers Association	South Bend
May 24-28	Super Market Institute Annual Convention	Cleveland
May 26	Indiana Agr. Mobilization Committee	Indianapolis
May 26	Missouri Agr. Mobilization Committee	Columbia
May 28-30	Nebraska FFA Convention	Kearney
May 29	Nebraska Agr. Mobilization Committee	Lincoln
June 9-11	Indiana 4-H Round-Up	W. Lafayette
June 12-14	Minnesota Poultry, Butter & Egg Assn.	Breezy Point
June 14-15	National-American Wholesale Grocers Assn.	Chicago
June 14-15	Michigan Cannery Association	Traverse City
June 14-18	National Retail Grocers Assn.	Chicago
June 18	Hoosier Market Lamb Show	Indianapolis
June 22-23	National Hereford Congress	E. Lansing
June 24-26	Michigan Dairy Boosters, Inc.	Traverse City

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES - Richard Bender, Chief

Chicago, Cleveland, and Kansas City GSA Supply Centers now have much better grade of mimeograph paper for requisition by PMA offices. Tests show paper far superior to that previously available. Stock numbers: Size 8 x 10½ - 53-P-16821-510-A; Size 8 x 15 - 53-P-16718-A.

AUDIT - Raymond F. Pauley, Assistant Chief Auditor

Practically entire staff still devoting all time to special CCC audit ordered by Secretary.

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Midwest Area, Office of Information Services, U.S. Department of Agriculture,
Production and Marketing Administration. 623 S. Wabash, Chicago 5, Illinois.

COMMODITY OFFICE - George D. Bradley, Director

Representatives of Chicago C.O. meeting with USDA attorneys discussing legal aspects of grain storage problems this week. Conferees include Patrick M. O'Leary, Office of Solicitor, and Stanley McMahon, Grain Branch, Washington; George Springborg, Regional Attorney's office, Lincoln; Casper Murphy, Acting Regional Attorney, Chicago, and assistants; and members of Chicago Commodity Office staff, headed by Assistant Directors Marvin Smith and M. R. Livingston; and members of Area Compliance and Investigation staff.

Administrative accounting functions now performed by Commodity Offices will be transferred to Administrative Accounting Divisions of Fiscal Branch in Chicago, Denver, and Washington July 1. Involves establishment of office in Denver, transfer of administrative fiscal functions of Chicago CO to Fiscal Branch; transfer of Administrative Accounting Division from Atlanta, and administrative fiscal functions of New York CO to Washington. States to be served by Chicago office: North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio.

Sales April 24-30: Corn, 1,201,533 bushels; wheat, 1,800 bushels; clover seed, 3,405 pounds. Purchases: Butter, 3,077,726 pounds; cheese, 699,430 pounds; dry milk, 1,998,990 pounds.

National butter purchases April 1 through May 5 totaled 30,355,764 pounds; cheese, 31,189,655 pounds; dry milk, 54,729,817 pounds.

COMPLIANCE AND INVESTIGATION - John W. Clagett, Chief

William Aarnes transferred to General Accounting Office in California.

Agents in field this week: Accountants - J. J. Donavon, A. Christian, J. J. Hickey, K. King, A. Gibbon, H. Popper, Minnesota; M. Mestrovich, Nebraska; H. Patton, Iowa; J. Guinee, Michigan. Investigators - R. Aiken, J. Ramstad, H. Covington, Nebraska; T. Burke, R. Coons, W. Hueremann, F. Freeman, Iowa; J. Maloney, N. Dakota; H. Oace, Minnesota, T. Ryan, S. Dakota.

CROP INSURANCE - J. Francis Buck, Branch Manager

C. B. FunderBurk, newly appointed Acting Manager of FCIC, was visitor on Wednesday.

DAIRY

Laboratory - T. I. Hedrick, In Charge

Dr. Hedrick on inspection visit Wednesday to Springfield, Missouri, creamery which is setting up own laboratory. Chemist under Dr. Hedrick will be stationed at new lab.

Milk Marketing Orders

Suspension of certain pricing provisions under Minneapolis-St. Paul order during May and June should reduce Class I milk price and result in better relationship to Chicago price in areas where two milksheds overlap.

Hearing to consider proposed changes in Cincinnati order scheduled for May 18, 10:00 a.m., Hotel Sinton, Cincinnati, Ohio.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION - Oscar Beyer, Supervisor

FDB will have exhibit at National Restaurant Association meeting, Chicago, May 11-15. In attendance at meeting will be G. Chester Freeman, Food Trades Division, Washington; Kathryne Sheehan, Home Economist, Washington; Walter Patterson and Hal Bolin, Chicago Area Office. Freeman also to attend Turkey Industry Forum May 14.

Nelson Post, School Lunch Division, Washington, visited this week to discuss various aspects of school lunch program.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Market News - J. A. Hunter, In Charge

Best buys on wholesale market this week: Texas onions, spinach, carrots, western lettuce, Florida grapefruit and oranges. Lettuce quality rather poor this week.

Fresh Products Inspection - Neal Sanborn, Supervisor

Mr. Sanborn in Colorado for shipping point inspection conference Tuesday through Thursday; planning Kansas City stopover enroute back.

Processed Products Inspection - Max Austin, Supervisor

Expect processing of asparagus to begin in Benton Harbor, Michigan area next week. Inspectors being sent to area.

Rains delayed expected start of strawberry processing in Tennessee, Monday; crop should benefit considerably by rains.

Regulatory - W. A. Hilgeston, Supervisor

John Unruhe, Los Angeles office, reported Monday to assist with heavy work load.

E. Gibson returned from extensive assignment in southern states.

GRAIN - Hazen English, Field Supervisor

Revised conversion charts for use with Tag-Heppenstall electric moisture meter in determining moisture content of barley, oats, and rye to be used by licensed grain inspectors and grain inspection supervisors beginning July 1. Revised charts will show somewhat higher moisture results in medium and high moisture ranges.

INFORMATION - John C. Baker, Chief

PMA Administrator Howard H. Gordon was visitor May 1 enroute to Amarillo, Texas.

Midwest Market Basket featured story on raisins, timed to correspond with special merchandising program by food trades next week. Last year's raisin crop, now supplying market, largest since 1947.

Baker will appear on WBBM-TV Monday, 3 p.m., as guest on shopping program, discussing shopping for fruits and vegetables.

PERSONNEL - Maurice P. Ward, Chief

Currently reviewing positions under Whitten Amendment which requires every employee to certify on PMA Form 628 as to currency of job description. Facts concerning descriptions as stated on form will be considered and ask audits made where thought advisable.

Civil Service Commission offices in St. Paul and New Orleans to be eliminated around July 1, reducing from 14 to 12 the number of regional offices. St. Paul gets sub-office. St. Louis will be headquarters for Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota, North Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas.

E. R. Draheim, Office of Personnel, Washington, expected next week for periodic review of personnel operations.

POULTRY

Inspection and Grading - Lawrence Dolson

Lloyd W. Fletcher reported for duty Monday as Assistant Supervisor. Transferred from Topeka, Kansas.

Mr. Dolson plans to attend meeting of regional supervisors scheduled for June 1-6 in Washington.

Dressed Poultry Inspection - W. S. Buchanan

Dr. A. B. Kincaid in St. Louis this week on initial survey of poultry plant requesting inspection service.

WASHINGTON VISITORS TO MIDWEST

POULTRY BRANCH: Rowena Carpenter to Chicago, May 14, to attend Turkey Industry Forum.

SUGAR BRANCH: Thurston Barlow, to North Dakota and Minnesota (also Idaho, Washington, Montana) May 10 to June 15, to review procedures under 1953 sugar beet program.

